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# Korea - Republic of

Post: Seoul ATO

# Seafood Market Brief Update 2017

Report Categories:

Fishery Products

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# **Report Highlights:**

Korean imports of seafood in 2016 totaled \$4.5 billion, up 6.2 percent from 2015 due to rising prices. Imports of American seafood decreased by 2.6 percent from \$233 million to \$227 million making United States the fifth largest exporter with a market share of 5.1 percent. U.S. seafood is generally considered high quality and safe, but less price competitive when competing with other origins. By volume, frozen Alaska Pollack Surimi, Flatfish, Alaska Pollack Fish, Cod, Alaska Pollack roe, Monkfish, Hagfish, Ray, Atka Mackerel, and live Lobsters were the major seafood imported from the United States. By value, frozen Alaska Pollack Surimi, live Lobsters, Cod, Flatfish, Alaska Pollack Fish, Monkfish, live Hagfish, frozen Skate, Alaska Pollack roe, and frozen Hagfish were the top ten imported species.

### **General Information:**

#### **SECTION I: KOREAN SEAFOOD MARKET OVERVIEW**

In 2016, Korea's seafood imports from all origins amounted to \$4.5 billion, up 6.2 percent from \$4.24 billion in 2015. The United States was the fifth largest supplier of seafood products to Korea giving its fourth largest exporter rank to Norway. The largest seafood supplying country in 2016 was China at \$1.2 billion, followed by Russia at \$698 million, Vietnam at \$615 million, Norway at \$299 million, USA at \$227 million, Thailand at \$147 million, Japan at \$142 million, Hong Kong at \$100, Taiwan at \$100 million and Peru at \$89 million. These ten countries accounted for 80 percent of Korea's total seafood imports in 2016. The most popular seafood imported in volume was Alaska Pollack Fish, followed by Alaska Pollack Surimi, Sand Lance, Squid, Mackerel, Saury, Poulp Squid, Baby Clam, Yellow Corbina, frozen Flatfish, Hair Tail, Monkfish, and Webfoot Octopus. By value, the most popular seafood was Shrimp & Prawn, followed by Alaska Pollack Fish, other fish Surimi, frozen/live Poulp Squid, Atlantic Salmon, live King Crab, frozen Hair Tail, frozen Yellow Corbina, frozen Webfoot Octopus, live Glass Eel for aquaculture, live Snow Crab, dried Alaska Pollack, frozen Squid, and live Lobsters.

**Korea imported \$227 million of U.S. seafood in 2016**, down 2.1 percent from \$233 million in 2015, but market share remained relatively steady at 5.1 percent. In Korea, U.S. seafood, including aquaculture, is generally considered high quality, but higher in price compared to that of competing countries. Until 2011 the United States had been the fifth largest exporter of seafood to the Korean market following China, Russia, Vietnam and Japan, but in 2012 the United States became the fourth largest due to Korean consumers' concern for Japanese seafood products after the nuclear power plant accident in Fukushima. However in 2016, Norway increased sales performance of its seafood products drastically and is now the fourth.

The top ten seafood products that Korea imported in large quantities from the United States were frozen Alaska Pollack Surimi (20,243 MT), flatfish (11,307 MT), Alaska Pollack (10,748 MT), roes of Alaska Pollack and other fish (7,549 MT), cod (7,091 MT), monkfish (2,146 MT), hagfish (1,987 MT), ray (1,869 MT), Atka Mackerel (1,741 MT), and live lobster (1,527 MT).

By value, Alaska Pollack Surimi (\$56.6 million), live lobster (\$30.3 million), cod (\$19.5 million), flatfish (\$17.8 million), Alaska Pollack (\$13.8 million), monkfish (\$11 million), live hagfish (\$10.3 million), skate (\$6.6 million), Alaska Pollack roe (\$6.4 million), and frozen hagfish (\$6.3 million) were the ten most leading seafood products exported from United States to Korea.

Table 12-1 of Section V below shows the major species exported to Korea from the United States and the world by value. Imports of 30 fish species accounted for 98 percent of the total imports of fishery products from the United States in 2016.

Until 2000, Korea was a net exporter of seafood. However, growing domestic demand and limited supplies reversed the situation. In 2016, Korea exported \$1.64 billion of seafood and imported about \$2.86 billion more than it exported. Imports are expected to continue to outpace exports ensuring that Korea will remain an important market for U.S. seafood suppliers.

#### SECTION II: KORUS FTA AND CUSTOMS DUTY

#### KORUS FTA

With respect to the seafood sector, the KORUS FTA is expected to create more opportunities for U.S. seafood exporters. Customs duties for fishery products imported from the United States were cut to zero immediately, or phased out over the course of 3 to 10 years. For instance, the customs duty for frozen Sockeye Salmon was cut to zero immediately, but duties for U.S. trout and sea bass were reduced to zero in 3 and 10 years, respectively. The customs duty elimination is prorated equally every year over the phase-out period.

There are three fish species which are subject to Tariff Rate Quotas (TRQ) under the FTA. For instance, customs duties are zero for imports of 2,248 metric tons of frozen flatfish and for 6,154 metric tons of frozen Alaskan Pollack in 2017. The quantities shall enter on a first-come, first-served basis. The duty-free quantities will increase each year as shown in the table below.

Table 1. Korea-United States FTA Seafood Tariff Rate Quotas (MT)

Year	Flatfish/Frozen (HS 0303.39.0000)	Alaska Pollack/Frozen (HS 0303.79.1000)	Croaker/Frozen (HS 0303.79.9095)
1 (2012)	1,530	4,000	1,000
2 (2013)	1,652	4,360	1,050
3 (2014)	1,785	4,752	1,103
4 (2015)	1,927	5,180	1,158
5 (2016)	2,082	5,646	1,216
6 (2017)	2,248	6,154	1,276
7 (2018)	2,428	6,708	1,340
8 (2019)	2,642	7,312	1,407
9 (2020)	2,832	7,970	1,477
10 (2021)	3,058	8,688	1,551
11 (2022)	3,303	9,469	1,629
12 (2023)	unlimited	10,322	unlimited
13 (2024)		11,251	
14 (2025)		12,263	
15 (2026)		unlimited	

Industry forecasts that Korean consumers will take advantage of lower prices resulting from elimination of import duties to demand more glass eel/live, Sockeye salmon/frozen, flatfish/frozen, salad eel/live, Alaska Pollack surimi/frozen, lobsters/live/frozen, Alaska Pollack/frozen, monkfish/frozen, cod/frozen, Alaska Pollack roes/frozen, cod roes/frozen, fish fillet/frozen, fish surimi/frozen and skate/frozen.

For more detailed information about the results of the KORUS FTA including the tariff schedule for Korea, please visit: <u>KORUS FTA Official Homepage in English</u> and <u>ATO Seoul Homepage FTA Section</u>.

Table 2. Korean Tariff Schedule for Major U.S. Fishery Products Sold to Korea

Other, Flatfish, frozen  Other, Flatfish, froz	Description	H.S. Code	2012 Base Rate	2017 KOR-US FTA Rate	Zero- Duty Year
Other, Flatfish, frozen	Fish Surimi, Alaska Pollack, frozen		10%	0%	2014
Monkfish, frozen         0303.89.9060         10%         6.9%         2021           Roes of Alaska Pollack, frozen         0303.90.2010         10%         0%         2016           Skate, frozen*         0303.82.2000         10%         0%         2014           Hagfish (Salad Eel), live         0301.99.7000         10%         0%         2016           Glass eel, live         0303.63.0000         10%         0%         2016           Alaska Pollack, frozen         0303.67.0000         0%         0%         2016           Alaska Pollack, frozen         0303.89.9070         10%         (TRQ.6.154)         0%           Magfish (Salad Eel), frozen         0303.89.9070         10%         5%         2021           Roes of other fish, frozen         0303.89.9070         10%         5%         2021           Roes of other fish, frozen         0303.89.9040         10%         5%         2021           Roes of other fish, frozen         0303.89.9050         10%         6.9%         2021           Roes of other fish, frozen         0303.89.9050         10%         6.9%         2021           Roek fish, frozen         0303.89.9050         10%         6.9%         2021           Roekerel, frozen	Other, Flatfish, frozen	0303.39.0000	10%	(TRQ 2,248 MT) 10%	2023
Roes of Alaska Pollack, frozen   0303.90.2010   10%   0%   2016	Monkfish, frozen	0303.89.9060	10%		2021
Skate, frozen*   0303.82.2000   10%   10%   2021     Hagfish (Salad Eel), live   0301.99.7000   10%   0%   2014     Cod, frozen   0303.63.0000   10%   0%   2016     Glass eel, live   0301.92.1000   0%   0%   2012     Alaska Pollack, frozen   0303.67.0000   10%   6.9%     Hagfish (Salad Eel), frozen   0303.89.9070   10%   5%   2021     Roes of other fish, frozen   0303.89.9040   10%   5%   2021     Elliet, Alaska Pollack, frozen   0304.75.0000   10%   6.9%   2021     Rock fish, frozen   0303.89.9050   10%   6.9%   2021     Rock fish, frozen   0303.89.9050   10%   6.9%   2021     Rock fish, frozen   0303.82.1000   10%   6.9%   2021     Rock fish, frozen   0303.81.1000   10%   6.9%   2021     Rock fish, frozen   0303.81.1000   10%   6.9%   2021     Rock fish, frozen   0303.81.1000   10%   6.9%   2021     Rock fish, frozen   0303.89.1000   10%   6.9%   2021     Rock fish, frozen   0303.89.1000   10%   6.9%   2021     Sardines, frozen   0303.89.1000   10%   6.9%   2021     Sardines, frozen   0303.89.1000   10%   6.9%   2012     Sardines, frozen   0303.89.1000   10%   0%   2016     Sable fish, frozen   0307.99.1100   20%   13.8%   2021     Lobsters, other than smoked   0306.12.9000   0306.12.9000   20%   0%   2016     Anchovy, dried   0305.59.2000   20%   10%   2021     Fillet, Others, frozen   0307.19.1000   20%   0%   2012     Fillet, Others, frozen   0307.99.1000   10%   0%   2014     Dyster, frozen   0304.95.1000   10%   0%   2016     Charlow, dried   0305.59.2000   20%   10%   2010     Charlow, dried   0305.59.2000   20%   10%   2021     Fillet, Others, frozen   0307.19.1000   20%   0%   2016     Charlow, dried   0305.59.2000   20%   10%   2021     Charlow, dried   0305.59.2000   20%   10%   2021     Charlow, dried   0306.14.9090   10%   0%   2016     Charlow, dried   0306.14.9090   10%   0%   2016     Charlow, dried   0306.14.9090   10%   0%   2016     Cha		_			
Hagfish (Salad Eel), live					
Cod, frozen   0303.63.0000   10%   0%   2016   Glass eel, live   0301.92.1000   0%   0%   2012   0%   0%   2012   0%   0%   2012   0%   0%   2012   0%   0%   2012   0%   0%   2012   0%   0%   2012   0%   0%   2016   0303.69.9000   10%   1	,				
Cale				0%	
Alaska Pollack, frozen  Alaska Pollack, frozen  Bagfish (Salad Eel), frozen  Roes of other fish, frozen  Roes of other fish, frozen  Roes of other fish, frozen  Rock fish, frozen  Rock fish, frozen  Bay, frozen  Bay, frozen  Bay, frozen  Bay, frozen  Ballet, Plaice, frozen  Bardines, frozen  Badductors of shell fish, frozen  Badductors of shell fish, frozen  Bay, fro	,				
Hagfish (Salad Eel), frozen   0303.89.9070   10%   5%   2021     Roes of other fish, frozen   0303.90.2090   10%   0%   2016     Atka mackerel, frozen   0303.89.9040   10%   5%   2021     Fillet, Alaska Pollack, frozen   0304.75.0000   10%   6.9%   2021     Rock fish, frozen   0303.89.9050   10%   6.9%   2021     Rock fish, frozen   0303.82.1000   10%   6.9%   2021     Ray, frozen   0303.81.0000   10%   6.9%   2021     Sockeye salmon, frozen   0303.11.0000   10%   0%   2012     Fillet, Plaice, frozen   0304.83.1000   10%   6.9%   2021     Sardines, frozen   0303.53.0000   10%   0%   2016     Sable fish, frozen   0303.89.1000   10%   0%   2016     Sable fish, frozen   0307.99.1100   20%   13.8%   2021     Lobsters, other than smoked   0306.12.9000   20%   0%   2016     Squid, frozen   0307.49.1020   10%   10%   2021     Anchovy, dried   0305.59.2000   20%   10%   2021     Fillet, Others, frozen   0307.49.1020   10%   0%   2014     Oyster, frozen   0307.19.1000   20%   0%   2014     Oyster, frozen   0307.19.1000   20%   0%   2016     Characteristics Bregmacerotidae, Euclichthyidae, Gadidae, Macrouridae, other than Alaska Pollack, frozen   0304.95.1000   10%   0%   2016     Other Crabs, frozen, other than smoked   0306.14.9090   006.14.9090     Other Crabs, frozen, other than smoked   0306.14.9090   006.14.9090	Alaska Pollack, frozen	0303.67.0000		0% (TRQ 6,154 MT) 10%	
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Other Crabs, frozen, other than smoked (Dungeness Crab)  Other Crabs, frozen, other than smoked  14%  0%  2014  14%  9.6%  2021	Fish Surimi, the families Bregmacerotidae, Euclichthyidae, Gadidae, Macrouridae, other than Alaska Pollack, frozen			0%	
Other Crabs, frozen, other than smoked 14% 9.6% 2021	Other Crabs, frozen, other than smoked (Dungeness Crab)	0306.14.9090	14%	0%	2014
	Other Crabs, frozen, other than smoked		14%	9.6%	2021
	Fillet, cod, frozen	0304.71.0000			

Plaice, frozen	0303.32.0000	10%	6.9%	2021
Other baby eels, live	0301.92.9010	10%	0%	2012

Source: Korea Customs and Trade Development Institute, Import/Export Customs Clearance General Guidebook of Korea, 2017

Negotiated customs duties on certain seafood products under the KORUS FTA are higher than the current Most Favored Nation (MFN) applied base rate, which Korea lowered after the trade agreement was negotiated.

However, the MFN applied rate is used when it is lower than the KORUS duty. The KORUS duty takes effect when it is lower than the MFN rate. Table 3 below shows an example of how this works in practice; green highlights show applicable duties.

**Table 3. KORUS FTA Tariff Schedule Applied to Frozen Skate Products** 

Product	Base R	ate	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	201 8	201 9	202 0	202 1
Fish, Frozen, of the families	Curren t	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%
Bregmacerotidae - Skates (HS0303.82.200	KORU S	27.0 %	24.3 %	21.6 %	18.9 %	16.2 %	13.5 %	10.8 %	8.1	5.4 %	2.7	0.0

## SECTION III: SUPPY, DEMAND AND MARKET OPPORTUNITIES

#### Supply

In 2016, Korean seafood production decreased slightly to 3.26 million metric tons, down 2.2 percent from 3.33 million metric tons in 2015. Production from adjacent waters was down 13.4 percent from 2015, and production from distant waters decreased by 21.3 percent. However, productions from shallow sea aquaculture (the largest production category) and inland waters (the smallest production category) were up 11.4 percent and 6 percent each, maintaining the status quo of overall seafood production.

The consecutive decreases in production from distant waters in 2015 and 2016 had been forecast by the industry well in advance because 2014 production had atypically increased due to an unusually high squid catch. It is expected that Korean domestic fish production volume will not increase significantly in the future due to reductions in fish resources in adjacent waters and the enforcement of Exclusive Economic Zones by Korea's neighboring countries. Constraints built into bilateral and multilateral fishing accords will further impact total harvest. The harvest from adjacent waters consists primarily of squid, mackerel, corbina, hairtail and anchovy.

The number of fishing vessels has steadily decreased reflecting the reduction in fishery resources and the Korean government has accelerated the downsizing of the Korean fishing fleet and plans to reduce it further over the next several years. Recognizing the potential economic impact of downsizing and fishery agreements, the Korean government is undertaking an in-depth study of aquaculture and researching how to secure higher fish catch quotas in foreign waters and is seeking to purchase fish quotas from other countries, including Russia. The Korean government

efforts to boost aquaculture production in shallow sea areas clearly indicate the importance of this sector as a future seafood resource.

Moreover, as seafood export opportunities with China, the EU and Japan grow, the Korean government's focus on shallow sea aquaculture is expected to continue in order to achieve plans to reach annual seafood exports of \$10 billion by the year 2020.

To insulate select domestic seafood producers from imported products (mainly from China), the Korean government has set higher "adjustment tariffs" ranging from 22 to 50 percent for nine fish species which are not subject to tariff bindings under WTO agreements. Prior to implementation of the adjustment tariffs, imports of these nine species were subject to tariffs ranging from 10 to 20 percent. However, the Korea-China FTA implemented as of December 20, 2015, started to give rise to the surge of price-competitive and good quality Chinese seafood into the Korean market.

Table 4. Korean Seafood Production by Waters (1,000 MT)

Year	Total	Adjacent Waters	Shallow Sea Aquaculture	Distant Waters	Inland Waters
2010	3,111	1,133	1,355	592	31
2011	3,256	1,235	1,478	511	32
2012	3,183	1,091	1,489	575	28
2013	3,135	1,045	1,515	550	25
2014	3,305	1,059	1,547	669	30
2015	3,330	1,058	1,662	577	33
2016	3,256	916	1,851	454	35

Source: Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries (MOF), Fishery Information Portal (www.fips.go.kr)

Table 5. Korean Seafood Production by Products (1,000 M/T)

Year	Total	Fishes	Shell fish	Crustacean	Mollusks	Other aquatic animals	Seaweed
2010	3,111	1,331	440	147	256	22	915
2011	3,256	1,355	467	130	269	28	1,007
2012	3,183	1,267	433	135	293	23	1,032
2013	3,135	1,195	346	149	282	23	1,140
2014	3,305	1,245	419	160	357	27	1,097
2015	3,330	1,226	409	117	335	38	1,206
2016	3,256	1,140	423	116	170	46	1,361

Source: Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries (MOF), Fishery Information Portal (www.fips.go.kr)

Korean Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries (MOF) established 340,060 metric tons as the Total Allowable Catch (TAC) for 2017 of eleven species as shown in Table 6 below. There are further restrictions such as limited catch seasons for some species as well as restrictions on the number of fishing boats and fishing methods.

(MT)

Table 6. Korean Total Allowable Catch in 2017

Species	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Mackerels	135,000	135,000	122,000	122,000	123,000

Jack mackerels	14,700	18,000	16,600	16,600	16,600
Red snow crabs	38,000	38,000	40,000	38,000	38,000
Snow crabs	1,521	1,570	1,583	1,194	906
Purplish Washington clams	2,090	2,100	2,000	1,800	1,800
Pen shells	9,080	8,455	6,465	5,332	5,332
Horned turban	1,310	1,506	1,506	1,642	1,432
Blue crabs	19,500	14,600	10,900	6,000	6,000
Squid	191,000	191,000	186,000	141,750	141,750
Sailfin sandfish	4,550	4,880	5,150	4,329	5,037
Mottled Skate	200	197	220	180	203
Total	416,951	415,308	392,424	338,827	340,060

Source: Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries (MOF), Resource Management Division

In 2015, Korean production of processed seafood was 1.83 million metric tons, down by 21.7 percent from 2.34 million metric tons in 2014 due to the reduced fish resource and harvest. However, by value the decrease was only 5.7 percent which is attributed to increased prices of value-added seafood such as fish cake products, dried fish, and canned seafood.

**Table 7. Korean Production of Processed Seafood** 

Year	Production (MT)	Value (Million K/Won)
2008	1,766,528	6,642,033
2009	1,898,135	6,046,188
2010	1,815,286	6,875,258
2011	1,865,546	6,540,369
2012	1,885,489	7,770,232
2013	1,819,693	7,422,605
2014	2,337,313	7,523,432
2015	1,829,141	7,097,394

Source: Korea Food Distribution Yearbook 2017

#### Demand

Korean consumers place high value on freshness, place of origin, taste, low cost, and food safety in the course of making seafood purchasing decisions. Overall performance of the Korean seafood market will depend greatly on production and consumption. Due to the shortage of ocean resources, seafood production is not expected to increase in the near future. Despite this, consumption of seafood continues to grow as consumers view seafood as a healthy source of protein.

Price, quality and timeliness are the most important factors affecting U.S. trade. U.S. fish are generally considered to be high quality and, in turn, more expensive than other countries' products. Therefore, the major species imported from the United States are species that Koreans enjoy and that other origins do not supply in large quantities.

The Korea Rural Economic Institute reported in its 2015 Food Balance Sheet that annual per capita seafood consumption in Korea was 58.9 kg (fishery products and shellfish 41.9 kg and seaweed 17.0 kg) in 2014. The major seafood species consumed by Koreans are anchovy, mackerels,

shrimp, squid, tuna, Alaskan Pollack, yellow corbina, hair tail, flat fish, monk fish, eel, rock fish and cod. The success of the Korean industry efforts to change consumer perceptions of fish (as a healthy alternative to red meat), to diversify fish products, to improve quality, and to develop processing technology will be key in expanding domestic demand.

Due to increased incomes and improved standards of living, seafood family restaurants have grown in popularity in Korea and have been expanding over the years. Popular seafood family restaurants include Todai, Ocean Seafood, Bono-Bono, Marisco, Makinochaya, Fisher's Market, Sea-n-More, Seafood Blue, El Mareta, Cfood Kitchen, D' Maris, Muscus, Viking's Wharf, and Soosa. These restaurants are using imported seafood as well as locally produced seafood.

Koreans eat fish in various states: fresh fish, chilled fish and lastly, frozen fish in the order of preference. Some fish are consumed raw ("Hoi", or "Sashimi"), and commands a price premium. Korean consumers assume fresh fish tastes better than frozen fish after cooking. Accordingly, fresh or chilled fish tend to be substantially more expensive than frozen fish.

As more and more women are working outside the home, the demand for convenience food has increased. Korean consumers are more attracted to precooked, prepared and preserved food available at supermarkets.

In 2013, CJ (Cheil Jedang) Corporation of Korea launched a new processed seafood brand called "Alaska Salmon". The "Alaska Salmon" is a canned product made in Thailand (OEM) using natural salmon from Alaska, a region that is famous with its pristine waters. The price of a can is 3,600 Korean Won for 135 grams which can be converted to about \$13.40 per pound. Even though the price was more than two times higher than those of regular canned tunas, this 100 percent natural salmon product hit the market making \$8.2 million in sales in its first year with a market share of 86 percent. Stimulated by this successful launching of "Alaska Salmon" brand, competing canneries such as "Dongwon" and "Sajo" also introduced their canned salmon products eroding CJ Corporation's market share every year. CJ Corporation, still the leader with more than 60 percent market share in 2014 and 2015, diversified its canned salmon products by adding three new products in 2014, which contributed the record total market sales of \$44.1 million in 2015. Currently five varieties of product (Original, Olive Oil, White Mayo, Brown Rice Oil, and Hot Pepper) are being sold in the market.

Hotels and department stores generally use high quality seafood for which they charge a higher price and some of the five-star hotels and leading department stores have already done special promotions featuring U.S. seafood products such as lobsters and scallops commemorating the  $3^{rd}$  and  $4^{th}$  anniversaries of the KORUS FTA implementation.

However, the institutional feeding and food service sector generally uses cheaper food ingredients to reduce cost as much as possible to remain competitive in the sector. The most popular fish products in this market include frozen flatfish (mostly yellowfin sole), skate, croaker (aka yellow corbina), Atka mackerel, Alaska Pollack roe and snow crab.

(Unit: 1,000 tons)

Total	Dei	mand		Total			Self-	
	Local	Exports	Carry-		Production	Imports	Inventory	sufficiency
	consumption		over					rate
2010	3,639	1,751	603	5,993	3,111	2,339	543	85.9%
2011	3,813	1,466	639	5,918	3,256	2,059	603	85.4%
2012	4,236	1,072	390	5,698	3,170	2,144	384	74.8%
2013	4,070	1,087	374	5,531	3,133	2,008	390	77.0%
2014	4,545	949	468	5,962	3,305	2,263	394	72.7%

Source: Korea Rural Economy Institute (KREI) 2015 Food Balance Sheet

Table 9. Korean Annual Per Capita Consumption of Seafood Products (Kg)

Product Category	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015 (Preliminary)
Fish and Shell fish	39.0	36.1	36.5	37.1	38.3	37.1	41.6	41.3
Seaweed	15.8	14.4	14.7	15.7	15.9	17.4	16.9	18.6
Total (kg/year)	54.8	50.5	51.2	52.8	54.2	54.5	58.5	59.9

Source: Korea Rural Economy Institute (KREI) 2015 Food Balance Sheet

## Competitors

Seafood is imported into Korea from about 100 different countries. Major suppliers of fishery products to Korea include China, Russia, Vietnam, Norway, USA, Thailand, Chile, Japan, Peru and Taiwan. In 2016, the top ten supplying countries accounted for about 80 percent of total Korean seafood imports on a value basis. China continued to be the largest supplier, followed by Russia and Vietnam.

Several countries have recently entered into trade agreements with Korea that have also put many of their seafood products at zero or phased out duties, which has increased competition in the sector. For example, the KORUS FTA implemented in March 2012 has focused attention on U.S. lobster and a growing number of importers and retailers began to hold a series of large scale instore promotions. In 2014, the tariff for live American lobsters dropped to 8% and total Korean imports of lobsters increased nearly 30% from 2013, nearly all of which was imported from the United States. However, the accelerated implementation of the Korea-Canada FTA in 2015 reversed the situation as tariffs dropped to zero for Canadian frozen lobsters in 2015. Over the past three years the total Korean market for lobsters has grown remarkably both by value and volume. Since 2013, total sales of American lobsters have increased over 50% and opportunities for American live lobster remains strong. However, competition will be fierce as the tariff for all Canadian lobsters dropped to zero in 2017.

Table 10. Tariff Phase-Out Schedule for Lobster Products under KORUS FTA

HSK 10	Description	Country	Base Rate	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
2013 HSK	Chilled	USA Canada	20%	16% 20%					0% 0%
	(Homarus							•	

	spp.)								
HSK 10	Description	( Olintry	Base Rate	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
	Frozen	USA		16%	12%	8%	4%	0%	0%
	Lobsters (Homarus spp.)	Canada	20%	20%	20%	20%	0%	0%	0%

Table 11. Korean Imports of Lobsters (Homarus Spp.): Live, Fresh, Chilled, Dried, Salted, In Brine, Including In Shell, Cooked by Steaming or by Boiling in Water, Frozen

Country	2013		2014		2015		2016	
Country	\$1,000	MT	\$1,000	MT	\$1,000	MT	\$1,000	MT
World	57,469	2,939	74,069	3,766	82,000	3,840	93,715	4,500
Canada	36,194	1,805	32,973	1,634	44,242	2,073	59,658	2,869
United States	21,200	1,133	40,993	2,128	37,693	1,765	33,718	1,615
Others	75	1	103	4	65	2	339	16

Source: Korea Customs and Trade Development Institute, HS 030622, HS030612

A dozen supplying countries including China, Russia, Japan, Norway, Thailand, Chile, Canada, Indonesia, and others participate in the Busan International Seafood & Fisheries Expo annually. These competitors exhibit a wide variety of seafood products targeting importers, wholesalers, distributors, retailers, hotels, restaurants and food processors. In 2016, competitors such as Norway, Canada and Japan have put considerable amount of strategic effort into promoting their own country's seafood exports to the Korean market through NSC (Norway), Trade Commissioner Service (Canada) and Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries (Japan) executing market research projects and market promotional events in Korea.

## Marketing

Imports of seafood are relatively straight-forward compared to other food and agricultural products. Traders import fishery products, and generally sell to hotels and food service industry directly, and/or to distributors who sell to traditional markets and restaurants. When the volume is large, importers generally sell to retailers such as supermarkets, discount stores and department stores directly. When the volume is small, importers sell to distributors who sell to retailers. Accordingly, U.S. suppliers should contact seafood importers to sell their fishery products to Korea.

Consumers like to purchase species that they are accustomed to, and importers tend to import the species consumers are demanding. As mentioned earlier, imports of only 30 species accounted for more than 98 percent of total seafood imports from the United States to Korea in 2016. This means that U.S. exporters should supply the species consumers prefer, and at the same time should also try to invest in building demand for other species with which consumers currently lack familiarity.

Possible sources of market information include Korean importers, U.S. state departments of agriculture, the USATO website (<a href="www.atoseoul.com">www.atoseoul.com</a>) and the U.S. Department of Commerce. Lists of Korean importers, by species, can be obtained from the U.S. Agricultural Trade Office.

One way of finding potential importers while also assessing market potential is to participate in local food shows to showcase your products to a larger audience. Many Korean importers attending these shows are looking to establish reliable long-term trading relationships. Show participation enhances initial contacts with importers, agents, wholesalers, distributors, retailers and others in the food and beverage industry.

**Seoul International Seafood Show (3S) 2017** was held in Seoul at COEX, May 10-12, 2017. Sponsored by the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries (MOF) of Korea, this is the only show held in Seoul specializing in seafood, fishery, nursery, aquaculture, processing machinery and related equipment. This show will be held in May 9-11 again next year and targets seafood buyers, users, fishing businessmen and traders. Check the official website of the show (<a href="https://www.seoulseafood.com">www.seoulseafood.com</a>) for further details.

Busan International Seafood & Fisheries Expo (BIFSE) 2017 will be held in Busan at BEXCO convention center, November 8-10, 2017. It offers an excellent opportunity to explore possible market opportunities in Korea. This show has been held in November (or October) every year and targets importers, wholesalers, distributors, retailers, hotels, restaurants, food processors, and media. Currently, it is the only seafood show held in Korea supported by ATO Seoul. ATO Seoul has been participating in this show for 13 years, in cooperation with State Regional Trade Groups such as SUSTA and Food Export USA Northeast. Check BISFE's official website (www.bisfe.com) for detailed information on the show. The registered trade show sales company in USA for this show is B-FOR the international exhibit people™, 520 William Street, Suite E, Fredericksburg, VA 22401-5775, USA (+1.540.373.9935 / bbieneck@b-for.com / www.b-for.com)

## **SECTION IV: FURTHER INFORMATION AND KEY CONTACTS**

For further information on how you can enter the Korean market for imported food products:

ATO Seoul uses the USDA's Global Agriculture Information Network (GAIN) system to provide stakeholders with market knowledge on Korean food trade. Exporters who want to find most recent copy of the annual Exporter Guide for the Korean market can access the GAIN and review the report at: 2016 Annual Exporter Guide Report by ATO Seoul

## For any further information about Korean market, please contact:

U.S. Agricultural Trade Office (ATO)

Local address: Rm 303, Leema B/D, 42, Jongro 1-gil, Jongro-gu, Seoul, Korea 03152

U.S. mailing address: ATO, U.S. Embassy - Seoul, Unit 9600 Box 0050, DPO, AP 96209-0050

Phone: 82-2-6951-6848 Fax: 82-2-720-7921

E-mail: atoseoul@fas.usda.gov Home Page: www.atoseoul.com

# **SECTION V: TRADE STATISTICAL APPENDIX**

Table 12. Korea's Total Seafood Imports by Year (\$million)

Year	From World	From USA	U.S. Market Share
2008	2,847	129	4.5%
2009	2,604	113	4.3%
2010	3,091	113	3.7%
2011	3,833	142	3.7%
2012	3,646	169	4.6%
2013	3,565	211	5.9%
2014	4,161	222	5.3%
2015	4,241	233	5.5%
2016	4,502	227	5.1%

Source: www.kita.net Korea's Trade Statistics Database for 2016

Table 12-1. Korean Seafood Imports from Major Countries (\$million)

Reporting Country:		Import		
Korea, Republic of Top 15 Ranking	2014	2015	2016	Percent change (2015~2016)
China	1,124	1,114	1,179	5.8%
Russia	672	705	698	-1.0%
Vietnam	627	574	615	7.1%
Norway	182	218	299	37.1%
United States	222	233	227	-2.5%
Thailand	165	168	147	-12.5%
Japan	97	116	142	22.4%
Hong Kong	73	34	100	194.1%
Taiwan	105	102	100	-2.0%
Peru	97	99	89	-10.1%
Chile	105	97	84	-13.4%
Canada	51	60	81	35.0%
Senegal	49	54	65	20.4%
Ecuador	44	50	52	4.0%
Indonesia	61	56	53	-5.4%
Other	487	561	572	2.0%
Total	4,161	4,241	4,502	6.2%

Table 13. Korea's Total Seafood Exports by Year (\$million)

Year	To World	To USA
2008	1,256	86
2009	1,326	101
2010	1,567	106
2011	1,982	130

2012	1,973	129
2013	1,749	136
2014	1,642	133
2015	1,481	146
2016	1,637	157

Table 13-1. Korean Seafood Exports to Major Countries (\$million)

Reporting Country:	Export				
Korea, Republic of Top 10 Ranking	2014	2015	2016		
Japan	625	545	585		
China	254	235	293		
United States	133	146	157		
Thailand	106	95	123		
Vietnam	62	76	85		
Hong Kong	27	42	50		
France	26	42	44		
Italy	20	24	38		
Spain	38	16	29		
Other	350	258	231		
Total	1,642	1,481	1,637		

Table 14-1. Top 30 Fish Imported to Korea from USA in 2016 (In Value, \$1,000)

Fish Species	HS Code Number	From USA (\$1,000)	From World (\$1,000)	U.S. Market Share
Fish Surimi, Alaska Pollack (Theragra Chalcogramma), frozen	0304.94.1000	56,606	56,639	99.9%
Lobsters, not frozen, other than smoked	0306.22.9000	30,332	73,610	41.2%
Cod, frozen	0303.63.0000	19,479	55,079	35.4%
Other, Flatfish, frozen	0303.39.0000	17,828	57,715	30.9%
Alaska Pollack (Theragra Chalcogramma), frozen	0303.67.0000	13,752	222,422	6.2%
Monkfish, frozen	0303.89.9060	10,970	71,381	15.4%
Hagfish (Salad Eel), live	0301.99.7000	10,269	14,770	69.5%
Skate, frozen	0303.82.2000	6,614	33,571	19.7%
Roes of Alaska Pollack, frozen	0303.90.2010	6,413	60,048	10.7%
Hagfish (Salad Eel), frozen	0303.89.9070	6,223	8,357	74.5%
Roes of Other Fish, frozen	0303.90.2090	5,231	15,478	33.8%
Atka mackerel, frozen	0303.89.9040	4,844	20,287	23.9%
Ray, frozen	0303.82.1000	3,722	25,911	14.4%
Fillet, Plaice, frozen	0304.83.1000	3,403	4,730	71.9%
Lobsters, frozen, other than smoked	0306.12.9000	3,386	20,104	16.8%
Other Pacific salmon	0303.12.0000	3,368	11,434	29.5%

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Fillet, Alaska Pollack (Theragra Chalcogramma), frozen	0304.75.0000	3,061	53,262	5.7%
Fish Surimi, Alaska Pollack (other than Theragra Chalcogramma), frozen	0304.99.1000	2,591	163,724	1.6%
Rock fish (including pacific ocean perch)	0303.89.9050	2,242	21,279	10.5%
Other fish, frozen	0303.89.9099	2,087	28,760	7.3%
Adductors of shell fish	0307.99.1100	1,953	13,054	15.0%
Fillet, cod, frozen	0304.71.0000	1,934	3,631	53.3%
Other crabs, live, fresh or chilled	0306.24.1090	1,578	129,813	1.2%
Other crabs (including Dungeness), frozen, other than smoked	0306.14.9090	1,426	61,704	2.3%
Fillet, Pacific salmon(Oncorhynchus nerka, Oncorhynchus gorbuscha, Oncorhynchus keta, Oncorhynchus tschawytscha, Oncorhynchus kisutch, Oncorhynchus masou and Oncorhynchus rhodurus), Atlantic salmon(Salmo salar) and Danube salmon(Hucho hucho)	0304.81.0000	1,059	7,592	13.9%
Sable fish, frozen	0303.89.1000	617	776	79.5%
Fillet, Other fish, frozen	0304.89.9000	505	17,291	2.9%
Plaice, frozen	0303.32.0000	460	1,173	39.2%
Sea Urchin, live, fresh or chilled	0308.21.0000	378	1,415	26.7%
Sockeye salmon, frozen	0303.11.0000	375	1,127	33.3%
Total		222,706	1,256,137	17.7%

Table 14-2. Top 30 Fish Imported to Korea from USA in 2016 (In Quantity, MT)

Fish Species	HS Code Number	From USA (1,000 Kg)	From World (1,000 Kg)	U.S. Market Share
Fish Surimi, Alaska Pollack (Theragra Chalcogramma), frozen	0304.94.1000	20,243	20,260	99.9%
Other, Flatfish, frozen	0303.39.0000	11,307	27,220	41.5%
Alaska Pollack (Theragra Chalcogramma), frozen	0303.67.0000	10,748	204,249	5.3%
Cod, frozen	0303.63.0000	7,091	20,380	34.8%
Roes of Other Fish, frozen	0303.90.2090	2,641	6,731	39.2%
Other	0303.89.9099	2,574	20,955	12.3%
Roes of Alaska Pollack, frozen	0303.90.2010	2,334	14,657	15.9%
Monkfish, frozen	0303.89.9060	2,146	27,006	7.9%
Hagfish (Salad Eel), frozen	0303.89.9070	1,987	2,708	73.4%
Ray, frozen	0303.82.1000	1,869	9,734	19.2%
Atka mackerel, frozen	0303.89.9040	1,741	8,264	21.1%
Lobsters, not frozen, other than smoked	0306.22.9000	1,527	3,633	42.0%
Rock fish, frozen	0303.89.9050	1,188	11,212	10.6%
Hagfish (Salad Eel), live	0301.99.7000	1,159	1,670	69.4%

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Fillet, Plaice, frozen	0304.83.1000	1,031	1,188	86.8%
Fillet, Alaska Pollack (Theragra	0304.75.0000	998	19,887	5.0%
Chalcogramma), frozen			,	3.0 /0
Skate, frozen	0303.82.2000	936	8,780	10.7%
Fish Surimi, Alaska Pollack (other than	0304.99.1000	917	102,775	0.9%
Theragra Chalcogramma), frozen	0304.33.1000	917	102,773	0.970
Other Pacific salmon(Oncorhynchus				
gorbuscha, Oncorhynchus keta,				
Oncorhynchus tschawytscha,	0303.12.0000	917	2,246	40.8%
Oncorhynchus kisutch, Oncorhynchus				
masou and Oncorhynchus rhodurus)				
Fillet, Cod, frozen	0304.71.0000	324	680	47.6%
Plaice, frozen	0303.32.0000	198	581	34.1%
Dogfish and other sharks	0303.81.0000	133	2,880	4.6%
Fillet, Pacific salmon(Oncorhynchus nerka,				
Oncorhynchus gorbuscha, Oncorhynchus				
keta, Oncorhynchus tschawytscha,				
Oncorhynchus kisutch, Oncorhynchus	0304.81.0000	132	835	15.8%
masou and Oncorhynchus rhodurus),				
Atlantic salmon(Salmo salar) and Danube				
salmon(Hucho hucho)				
Other crabs (including Dungeness),	0306.14.9090	118	9,668	1.2%
frozen, other than smoked			,	
Fillet, Other fish, frozen	0304.89.9000	118	3,598	3.3%
Lobsters, frozen, other than smoked	0306.12.9000	88	867	10.2%
Adductors of shell fish (Scallops), frozen	0307.99.1100	80	1,040	7.7%
Sockeye salmon, frozen	0303.11.0000	75	213	35.2%
Other crabs, live, fresh or chilled	0306.24.1090	54	8,680	0.6%
Fish Surimi, Alaska Pollack (Theragra	0204 05 1000	47		100.00/
Chalcogramma), frozen	0304.95.1000	47	47	100.0%
Total		74,721	542,644	13.8%
	_1		,	

Table 15. Korean Imports of Fish Roes, Urchin Roes, Caviar and Livers by Country of Origin (MT)

2015		2016		
USA	5,757	USA	4,982	
Russia	16,175	Russia	14,932	
Iceland	894	Iceland	1,307	
New Zealand	795	New Zealand	952	
Norway	547	Norway	797	
Indonesia	300	Indonesia	239	
Others	465	Others	504	
Total	24,933	Total	23,713	

Table 15-1. Korean Imports of Fish Roes, Urchin Roes, Caviar and Liver by HS Code (MT)

Chasias	2013 H.S. Code	201	5	2016	
Species	2013 H.S. Code	World	USA	World	USA
Livers, frozen	0303.90.1000	218	5	58	2
Roes/AK Pollack, frozen	0303.90.2010	15,204	2,955	14,657	2,334
Other Roes, Frozen	0303.90.2090	7,466	2,792	6,731	2,641
Caviar and caviar substitutes	1604.31.0000 1604.32.0000	2,045	5	2,267	5
Total		24,933	5,757	23,713	4,982

Table 16. Korean Imports of Flatfish by Country of Origin (MT)

201	5	2016		
USA	14,781	USA	11,505	
Russia	9,558	Russia	12,537	
China	1,922	China	2,046	
Guinea	1,124	Guinea	999	
Senegal	1,050	Senegal	681	
Spain	296	Spain	269	
Others	584	Others	749	
Total	29,315	Total	28,786	

Source: www.kita.net Korea's Trade Statistics Database for 2016

Table 16-1. Korean Imports of Flatfish by HS Code (MT)

Species	H.S. Code	201	.5	2016		
	n.s. code	World	U.S.A	World	U.S.A.	
Flat Fish, Live / Plaice, Fresh	0301.99.8000 0302.22.0000	188	0	170	0	
Halibut, Frozen	0303.31.0000	690	0	679	0	
Plaice, Frozen	0303.32.0000	478	148	581	198	
Sole, Frozen	0303.33.0000	78	0	136	0	
Others, Frozen	0303.39.0000	27,881	14,633	27,220	11,307	
Total		29,315	14,781	28,786	11,505	

Table 17. Korean Imports of Ground Fish by Country of Origin (MT)

201	.5	2016			
USA	11,307	USA	19,064		
Russia	191,580	Russia	212,709		
Portugal	3,404	Portugal	4,208		
Japan	3,923	Japan	3,999		
Others	6,300	Others	8,835		
Total	216,514	Total	248,815		

Source: <a href="https://www.kita.net">www.kita.net</a> Korea's Trade Statistics Database for 2016

Table 17-1. Korean Import of Ground Fish by HS Code (MT)

Chasias	H.S. Code	201!	5	2016		
Species	n.s. code	World	USA	World	USA	
Cod, Fresh	0302.51.0000	1,023	12	506	0	
Alaska Pollack, Fresh	0302.55.0000	3,523	1	3,983	0	
Cod, Frozen	0303.63.0000	15,724	3,981	20,380	7,091	
Hake, Frozen	0303.66.0000	80	4	1,106	23	
Alaska Pollack	0303.67.0000	180,771	5,885	204,249	10,748	
Rockfish (ocean perch)	0303.89.9050	9,639	1,422	11,212	1,188	
Alaska Pollack, Dried	0305.59.3000	5,754	2	7,379	14	
Total		216,514	11,307	248,815	19,064	

Source: www.kita.net Korea's Trade Statistics Database for 2016

Table 18. Korean Imports of Fillet/Surimi by Country of Origin (MT)

2015		201	6
USA	23,264	USA	23,810
Vietnam	57,928	Vietnam	54,751
China	31,246	China	34,793
Russia	17,119	Russia	19,156
Indonesia	6,391	Indonesia	6,428
Pakistan	4,985	Pakistan	4,514
India	4,234	India	3,520
Thailand	3,108	Thailand	2,849
Peru	2,463	Peru	2,665
Others	7,560	Others	8,562
Total	158,298	Total	161,048

Table 18-1. Korean Imports of Fillet/Surimi by HS Code (MT)

Chasias	2012 U.C. Codo		2015		5
Species	2013 H.S. Code	World	USA	World	USA
Fillet of Alaska Pollack/fr ozen	0304.75.0000	17,95 8	1,17 4	19,88 7	998
Fillet of Cod/froze n	0304.71.0000	425	114	680	324
Fillet of Plaice/fro zen	0304.83.1000	1,008	903	1,188	1,03 1
Fillet of Other	0304.72.00000304.73.00000304.74.00000304.79. 0000	12,58 8	402	12,91 5	250

Fish/froze n	0304.81.00000304.82.0000 0304.83.90000304.84.00000304.85.00000304.86. 00000304.87.XXXX 0304.89.XXXX				
Surimi of Alaska Pollack/fr ozen	0304.94.1000	19,75 7	19,7 04	20,26 0	20,2 43
Other type of fish meat of Alaska Pollack/fr ozen	0304.94.9000	58	0	8	0
Surimi of other fish/froze n	0304.91.10000304.92.1000 0304.93.10000304.95.10000304.99.1000	104,4 98	942	102,8 22	964
Other type of fish meat of other fish/fresh or chilled, frozen	0304.91.90000304.92.9000 0304.93.90000304.95.90000304.99.9000	2,006	25	3,288	0
Total		158,2 98	23,2 64	161,0 48	23,8 10

Table 19. Korean Imports of Crustaceans by Country of Origin (MT)

201	5	2	016
USA	1,982	USA	1,738
China	31,236	China	28,934
Vietnam	18,419	Vietnam	22,879
Ecuador	5,706	Ecuador	6,391
Russia	7,986	Russia	7,059
Thailand	2,709	Malaysia	2,539
India	2,545	Thailand	2,343
Malaysia	2,519	India	2,308
Others	11,283	Others	14,245
Total	84,385	Total	88,436

Table 19-1. Korean Imports of Crustaceans by HS Code (MT)

Charine	2013 H.S.	2015		2016	
Species	Code	World	USA	World	USA
Frozen lobsters (Homarus spp.)	0306.12.9000	563	120	867	88

Frozen peeled shrimps and prawns	0306.16.1090 0306.17.1090	20,840	0	22,819	0
Frozen other type of shrimps and prawns	0306.17.9010 0306.17.9090	20,560	19	21,921	0
Frozen crab meat	0306.14.1090	0	0	17	0
Frozen king crabs	0306.14.2090	360	1	46	0
Frozen blue crabs	0306.14.3090	22,491	0	20,846	0
Frozen other type of crabs	0306.14.9090	7,494	195	9,668	118
Not frozen lobsters (Homarus spp.)	0306.22.9000	3,277	1,645	3,633	1,527
Live, fresh or chilled shrimps and prawns	0306.26.1000	1	1	3	1
Salted or in brine shrimps and prawns	0306.26.3000	0	0	0	0
Live, fresh or chilled snow crab	0306.24.1020	5,501	1	5,040	2
Frozen rock lobster, other sea crawfish, dried shrimps, crabs, etc.	0306.11.9000 0306.26.2000 0306.27.2000 0306.24.2000 0306.29.2000	3,298	0	3,576	2
Total		84,385	1,982	88,436	1,738

Table 19-2. Korean Imports of Lobsters (Homarus Spp.): Live, Fresh, Chilled, Dried, Salted, In Brine, Not Frozen

Country	2013		2014		2015		2016	
	\$1,000	MT	\$1,000	MT	\$1,000	MT	\$1,000	MT
World	47,247	2,556	67,992	3,518	66,837	3,277	73,610	3,633
Canada	31,311	1,606	29,963	1,493	33,687	1,630	43,243	2,106
United States	15,921	950	37,959	2,023	33,103	1,645	30,332	1,527
Others	15	0	70	2	47	2	35	0

Source: Korea Customs and Trade Development Institute, HS 030622

Table 19-3. Korean Imports of Lobsters (Homarus Spp.): Including In Shell, Cooked by Steaming or by Boiling in Water, Frozen

Country	2013		2014		2015		2016	
	\$1,000	MT	\$1,000	MT	\$1,000	MT	\$1,000	MT
World	10,222	383	6,077	248	15,163	563	20,105	867
Canada	4,883	199	3,010	141	10,555	443	16,415	763
United States	5,279	183	3,034	105	4,590	120	3,386	88
Others	60	1	33	2	18	0	304	16

Source: Korea Customs and Trade Development Institute, HS 030612

Table 20. Korean Imports of Mollusks by Country of Origin (MT)

2015	5	2016		
USA	218	USA	91	
China	117,869	China	118,688	
Vietnam	31,529	Vietnam	30,092	

Chile	22,569	Chile	28,519
Peru	15,225	Peru	9,183
Thailand	9,490	Thailand	7,369
Japan	7,832	Japan	7,039
Argentina	4,533	Mauritania	3,148
Mauritania	4,384	Taiwan	3,025
Indonesia	2,719	Indonesia	1,751
Others	8,152	Others	7,083
Total	224,520	Total	215,988

Table 20-1. Korean Imports of Mollusks by HS Code (MT)

Species	2013 H.S.	2015		2016	
Species	Code	World	USA	World	USA
Scallops	0307.2X.XXXX	9,977	1	8,349	2
Cuttlefish	0307.4X.XXXX	48,325	23	52,350	0
Octopus	0307.5X.XXXX	85,908	106	78,454	9
Hard clams, abalones, top shells, pearl oyster, ark shells, cockles, adductors of shell fish, sea urchins, sea cucumbers, hen clams, baby clams, jelly fish	0307.7X.XXXX 0307.8X.XXXX 0307.9X.XXXX	80,244	71	76,553	80
Oysters, mussels	0307.1X.XXXX 0307.3X.XXXX	66	17	282	0
Total		224,520	218	215,988	91

**Table 21. Korean Tariff Schedule for Fishery Products** 

Description	H.S. Code	2012 Base Rate
<b>Live Fish</b> , Ornamental, Other Live	0301.XX.XXXX except 0301.92.1000, 0301.92.2000 and 0301.99.4010	10%
<b>Live Fish</b> , Other, Eels, Glass Eels (not exceeding 0.3g per unit, for aquaculture) and Sea Bream Fry (for aquaculture)	0301.92.1000 and 0301.99.4010	0%
<b>Live Fish</b> , Other, Eels, Young Eels (exceeding 0.3g and not exceeding 50g per unit, for aquaculture)	0301.92.2000	5%
Fish, Fresh or Chilled	0302.XX.XXXX	20%
Fish, Frozen	0303.XX.XXXX	10%
Fish Fillets and Other Fish Meat - Fresh or Chilled Fillets of Tilapias, Catfish, Pacific Salmon, Trout, Flat Fish, Swordfish,	0304.3X.XXXX, 0304.4X.XXXX, 0304.5X.XXXX	20%

Toothfish, and Other Fish		
Fish Fillets and Other Fish Meat		
- Frozen Fillets of Tilapias,		
Catfish, Cod, Haddock, Coalfish,	0304.6X.XXXX, 0304.7X.XXXX, 0304.8X.XXXX,	1.00/
Hake, Alaska Pollack, Pacific	0304.9X.XXXX	10%
Salmon, Trout, Flat Fish,		
Swordfish, Toothfish, Herrings,		
Tunas and Other Fish		
Fish, Dried, Salted or in Brine, Smoked Fish, whether or not cooked before or during the smoking process, Flours, Meals and Pellets of Fish, Fit for Human	0305.XX.XXXX	20%
Consumption		
Crustaceans, whether in shell		
or not, Live, Fresh, Chilled,		
Frozen, Dried, Salted or in Brine,		
Smoked Crustaceans, whether or		
not cooked before or during the		
smoking process, Crustaceans, in	0306.XX.XXXX	10%
shell or not, Cooked by Steaming		
or by Boiling in Water, whether or		
not chilled, Frozen, Dried, Salted		
in Brine, Flours, Meals and Pellets		
of Crustaceans, Fit for Human		
Consumption		
Mollusks, whether in shell or		
not, Live, Fresh, Chilled, Frozen,		
Dried, Salted or in Brine, Smoked	0307.1X.XXXX, 0307.2X.XXXX, 0307.3X.XXXX ,	
Mollusks, whether in shell or not,	0307.4X.XXXX, 0307.5X.XXXX, 0307.6X.XXXX,	
whether or not cooked before or	0307.7X.XXXX, 0307.8X.XXXX and 0307.9x.XXXX	
during the smoking process,	except	200/
Flours, Meals and Pellets of	0307.11.1010, 0307.11.1090, 0307.41.XXXX,	20%
Mollusks, Fit for Human	0307.49.10XX,	
Consumption – Oysters, Scallops,	0307.49.2000, 0307.49.3000, 0307.71.2010 and	
Mussels, Smoked Cuttle Fish and	0307.91.2010	
Squid, Octopus, Snails, Clams,		
Cockles, Ark Shells, Abalone, Top Shells and Adductors of Shell Fish		
Mollusks, whether in shell or		
not, Live, Fresh, Chilled, Frozen,		
Dried, Salted or in Brine, Smoked		
Mollusks, whether in shell or not, whether or not cooked before or		
	0207 11 1010 0207 71 2010 0207 01 2010	00/
during the smoking process,	0307.11.1010, 0307.71.2010, 0307.91.2010	0%
Flours, Meals and Pellets of		
Mollusks, Fit for Human		
Consumption - Live, Fresh or		
Chilled Oyster Spat , Ark Shell		
and Pearl Oyster for Seed		
Mollusks, whether in shell or	0307.11.1090	5%
not, Live, Fresh, Chilled, Frozen,		

Dried, Salted or in Brine, Smoked		
Mollusks, whether in shell or not,		
whether or not cooked before or		
during the smoking process,		
Flours, Meals and Pellets of		
Mollusks, Fit for Human		
Consumption - Live, Fresh or		
Chilled Oyster Spat Other		
Mollusks, whether in shell or		
not, Live, Fresh, Chilled, Frozen,		
Dried, Salted or in Brine, Smoked		
Mollusks, whether in shell or not,	0207 41 VVVV 0207 40 10VV 0207 40 2000	
whether or not cooked before or	0307.41.XXXX, 0307.49.10XX, 0307.49.2000,	10%
during the smoking process,	0307.49.3000	
Flours, Meals and Pellets of		
Mollusks, Fit for Human		
Consumption – Cuttle Fish, Squid		
Aquatic Invertebrates Other		
Than Crustaceans and		
Mollusks, Live, Fresh, Chilled,		
Frozen, Dried, Salted or in Brine,		
Smoked Aquatic Invertebrates		
Other Than Crustaceans and		
Mollusks, whether or not cooked		
before or during the smoking	0308.XX.XXXX except 0308.90.1011	20%
process, Flours, Meals and Pellets		
of Aquatic Invertebrates Other		
Than Crustaceans and Mollusks,		
Fit for Human Consumption – Sea		
Cucumber, Sea Urchins, Jellyfish		
and Other		
Aquatic Invertebrates Other		
Than Crustaceans and		
Mollusks, Live, Fresh, Chilled,		
Frozen, Dried, Salted or in Brine,		
Smoked Aquatic Invertebrates		
Other Than Crustaceans and		
Mollusks, whether or not cooked	0308.90.1011	0%
before or during the smoking		
process, Flours, Meals and Pellets		
of Aquatic Invertebrates Other		
Than Crustaceans and Mollusks,		
Fit for Human Consumption –		
Live, Fresh or Chilled Sea-Squirts		
for Seed		
Extracts and Juices of Fish or		
Crustaceans, Mollusks or Other	1603.00.3000 and 1603.00.4000	30%
Aquatic Invertebrates		
Prepared or Preserved Fish,		
Caviar and Substitutes Prepared	1604.XX.XXXX	20%
from Fish Eggs – Salmon,		20 /0
Herrings, Sardines, Tunas,		

Mackerel, Anchovies, Eels, Saury, Jerk Filefish, Fish Pastes, Fish Marinade, Fish Cake, Caviar and Caviar Substitutes		
Crustaceans, Mollusks and Other Aquatic Invertebrates, Prepared or Preserved – Crab, Shrimps and Prawns, Lobster, Oysters, Scallops, Mussels, Cuttle Fish, Squid, Octopus, Clams, Abalone, Snails, Sea Cucumber, Sea Urchins, Jellyfish and Other Fish	1605.XX.XXXX	20%

Source: Korea Customs and Trade Development Institute, Import/Export Customs Clearance General Guidebook of Korea, 2017